

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF PESTICIDE REGULATION (DPR)

PESTICIDE EPISODE CLOSING REPORT

PR-ENF-055 (REV. 5/00)

CLOSED

- 087

PRIORITY INVESTIGATION NO.	INCIDENT DATE	TRANSMITTAL DATE	CLOSING REPORT DATE	SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ATTACHED	
40-LA-00	8/15/00	8/18/00	7/16/01	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
NAME OF PESTICIDE			U.S. EPA OR STATE REGISTRATION NO.	SIGNAL WORD	
Vikane			62719-4	DANGER	

INVESTIGATION SUMMARY:

On August 15, 2000, 3 Star Fume, a structural pest control company, fumigated a house in Los Angeles, California. The company used Vikane (EPA Reg. No. 62719-4) to treat the house for dry wood termites. On August 16, 2000, at 0530 hours, the tarped house exploded and burned to the ground. The property damage was estimated to be approximately \$400,000. The Los Angeles Fire Department and the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner's (LA CAC) office investigated this incident. The LA CAC interviewed LA Fire Department personnel who were first on the scene, and later interviewed the Gas Company. LA Fire Department confirmed that the gas valve had been left open by the fumigator during the fumigation and that gas had leaked through the living room fireplace, causing the explosion. LA CAC also found improperly bagged food items which had been left inside the house. LA CAC wrote a Notice of Violation to 3 Star Fume for FAC Section 12973 and CCR 6614 (a), which resulted in a structural civil penalty.

SECTION(S) VIOLATED:

FAC 12973: Use in conflict with the labeling.
CCR 6614(a): Protection of Persons, Animals, and Property. A gas meter valve was left open inside a structure during a fumigation.

CONSIDERATIONS:

GROUND WATER	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
WORKER HEALTH AND SAFETY	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	NA <input type="checkbox"/>
ENDANGERED SPECIES	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PRODUCT REGISTRATION	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	NA <input type="checkbox"/>
CANCELLED/SUSPENDED PESTICIDE	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	NA <input type="checkbox"/>

ENFORCEMENT ACTION TAKEN:

☐ NONE ☐ COMPLIANCE ACTION ☒ ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL PENALTY ☐ EPA ACTION REQUESTED ☐ OTHER

DPR ROUTING:

Andrews, Brank, Bundock, Okumura, Paulsen, Reardon, Richmond, Rutz, Shattuck, Watson, Southern Regional Office, Priority Investigation File (40-LA-00)

AGENCY NOTIFICATION	DATE REPORT SENT
U.S. EPA: Ms. Laurie Amaro	6/19/03
CAC: Mr. Cato Flaksdal	6/19/03
DIR: Mr. Rob Repke	6/19/03
DHS: Dr. Rupali Das	6/19/03
OEHA: Dr. William Ngai	6/19/03
OTHER: Ms. Kelli Okuma (SPCB)	6/19/03

(PLEASE PRINT ON LINES BELOW)

REPORT PREPARED BY: Ms. Peggy Byerly

DATE: 7/16/01

REPORT REVIEWED BY:

DATE:

DPR REGIONAL OFFICE SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE: Mr. James Shattuck

PHONE NO.: (916) 375-5874

DATE: 7/16/01